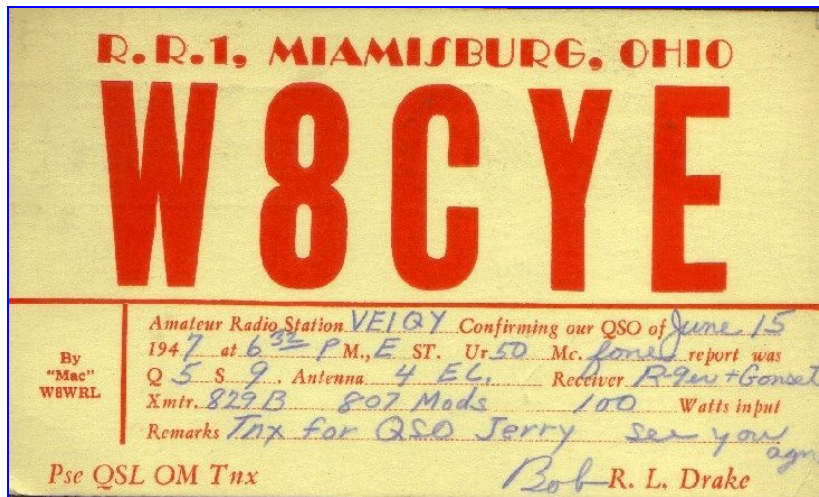


**R.L. Drake Co.** Was founded by **Robert Lloyd Drake Sr. \*1910-1975\* W8CYE**. Bob was the oldest son of four children and also the father of four children. W8CYE was born in Cincinnati, OH, he attended the U of Cincinnati. In those days, the university was a city college and he lived at home while attending college.



Graduating then in early 1930s, Mr. Drake was first employed by Dayrad (Dayton Radio Co.) in the engineering dept. He later had a position with Bendix Corp. in their aviation department. Mr. Bill Lear of Lear Jet fame, hired Mr. Drake into his engineering department at Lear Aviation.



In 1943 Mr. Drake started his business, the company began at 11 Longworth in Dayton, Oh. The upper level of the building was rented to a manufacturer of coat hangers. He had left his secure position at Learavia. He gathered three other people to help him design and build his products. One of the individuals was Katy Quake who worked for the

company until 1988. Another was Milton Sullivan, a fellow engineer and amateur radio operator. As usual a [www.w8jyz.com](http://www.w8jyz.com) QSL card. Bob has a great collection on the web.

Products at the time were mainly low & high pass filters for military and amateur use. A tank jamming device was also produced for the U.S. Military and used in major events such as Normandy Beach 6 June 44.

After WW2 the Drake Company was guided from a modest beginning, to the growth of the company to a position of international importance in the communications, electronic fields. Today, all over the world wherever radio communications equipment is used, the name Drake is held in high esteem.

The companies first receiver was the Drake 1A in 1957. approx 1100 of them were made at a cost of 300 dollars each. It was a hot triple conversion. In 1963 the first TR-3 transceiver came off the line and the remainder history. Mr Drake expired in 1975 and his son Peter, engineer-business man continued the family tradition. Partially scripted from Bob Frost.

